

## **Racine County**

Office of the County Executive

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## RACINE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ISSUES DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Racine – Racine County Executive Jonathan Delagrave has issued a declaration of emergency in Racine County due to the severe bluff erosion in the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant.

Because of the increase in water levels on Lake Michigan, and the combination of wave action and unstable bluffs, the erosion of the bluffs has accelerated at an unprecedented rate.

"We are concerned the homes as well as public utilities and infrastructure will fall victim to Lake Michigan in coming days and weeks, "commented Delagrave. "County staff are monitoring the situation closely, and we are prepared to do everything we can to support local municipal efforts."

Although the shoreline of Lake Michigan is not under the jurisdiction of Racine County, Delagrave added, "As County Executive, this is one way to support our municipalities in raising awareness and finding an expeditious solution. The presidents of the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant are aware and in agreement with this action regarding this precarious erosion along their shorelines."

An emergency declaration positions Racine County to ask for state and federal assistance, if the situation warrants. In addition, the County Executive has the authority to make county personnel and resources available.